SPACE--SOMEWHERE BEYOND THE VAST SEA OF STARS...!
OOPS! SCRATCH THAT! LET'S START OVER. ;Ahem!;
EARTH--SOMEWHERE IN THE PANORAMIC VISTA THAT IS OLD YELLERSTONE NATIONAL PARK. THE TIME: 4:45 p.m., WHEN A YOUNG MAN'S FANCY TURNS TO THOUGHTS OF...
DINNERTIME!
SETTLE DOWN THERE, BELA! I'M ALL TUCKERED OUT FROM A HARD DAY'S HUNT..WHICH WAS A SPECTACULAR SUCCESS, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF.
Yarf-Yarf-Yarf!
ARMY SURPLUS
NO HUNTING
IT TOOK ALL MY TRAPPING SKILLS, BUT TAKE A GANDER AT WHAT I CAUGHT--
--A PLETHORA OF NUTS, BLACK BERRIES, AND THAT MOST ELUSIVE OF DELICACIES, WILD TOFU! THAT WILD TOFU PUT UP A HELL OF A STRUGGLE, BELIEVE YOU ME!
Blech!
AW, C'MON! I KNOW IT'S NOT AS HIGH ON THE CULINARY LADDER AS MANGY MUTT CHOW, BUT IT SURE BEATS A KICK IN THE HEAD!
HEY, DUDE--IT WAS YOUR BRIGHT IDEA THAT WE WASTE MY VACATION ON A CAMPING TRIP! IF YOU DIDN'T WANT TO "ROUGH IT," WHY DID YOU EVEN SUGGEST IT?
PUFF!
Yarf!
#WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT CAMPING? I JUST WANTED TO GO POTTY!

OKAY, LOOK--IT'S NOT THE INGREDIENTS THAT MAKE A MEAL: IT'S THE CHEF VOILA TOFU UPSIDE-DOWN CAKE!
BEST OF ALL, NO WOODLAND CREATURES WERE HARMED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS ZESTY REPAST!
PAT! PAT!
PUFF!
PFF!: SOME POKEYMON TRAINER SHE IS! SHE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO FEED IT PROPERLY!
WE'VE COME FOR THE POKEYMON, LADY--SO HAND HIM OVER PEACEABLE-LIKE, AND THERE WON'T BE ANY TROUBLE.
AW, SHUCKS! CAN'T WE ROUGH HER UP A LITTLE, FLASH? I NEED THE EXERCISE.
Another POCKET-CLASSIC by:
FRANK STROM
DAN DAY
LOUIS LACHANCE
with lettering by
SUSAN DORNE
and nitpicking by
RICHARD HOWELL
WHA--?!?
Ohhh, I GET IT. DUH! YOU KIDS ARE PESKY AUTOGRAPH HOUNDS, RIGHT? OKAY, I'M A SPORT--IF YOU'VE GOT A PEN, I'LL BE HAPPY TO--!
K'SO! WE'RE NOT HERE FOR YOUR AUTOGRAPH, WE'RE HERE FOR YOUR POKEYMON! I REPEAT, HAND HIM OVER!
"Hokey Pokeymon!"

"POKEYMON"? Er.. HOW DO YOU SPELL THAT?
:Groan!: CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS BIMBO? SHE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT A POKEYMON IS!
WELL, Y'KNOW...THESE FASHION FADS USUALLY FLY UNDER MY RADAR!
POKEYMON ARE MONSTERS, BIRDBRAIN!
MONSTERS?
ACCORDING TO MY HOKEY-POKEYMON PERFECT MANUAL VOL. I, "POKEYMON" IS SLANG TERMINOLOGY FOR "POKEY LITTLE MONSTERS". GET IT?
I DUNNO--IS IT CATCHING?
IN LAYMAN TERMS, POKEYMON ARE EXTRADIMENSIONAL FIGHTING BEASTS WITH SUPER-POWERS.
Uh-huh.
Uh-huh.
THERE ARE LOTS OF 'EM, AND THEY'RE SO GOSH-DARN CUTE, YA GOTTA COLLECT 'EM ALL!
Uh-huh. SO WHAT'S THIS GOT TO DO WITH ME?
PUFF!
Ka Choo!!
Grrr...!!
YEAH, I DO...BUT YOU WON'T!
C'MON, BELA--TIME FOR YOU AND MOMMY TO DITCH THESE LOSERS ...AND FAST!
WE CATCH AND TRAIN POKEYMON...
...AND WE WANNA ADD YOUR SHAPE-SHIFTING POKEYMON TO OUR COLLECTION!
NOW DO YOU GET IT?

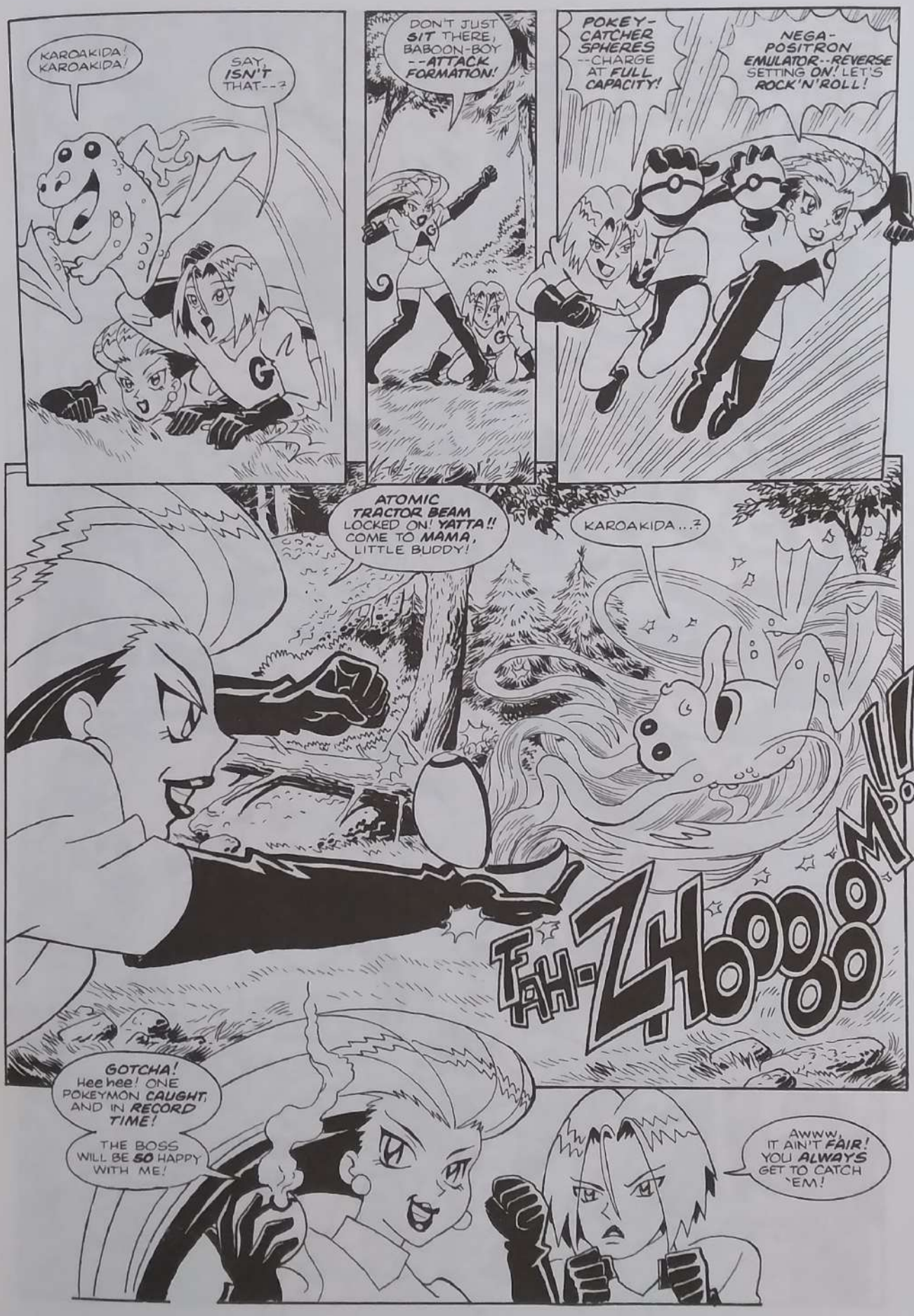
SHE'S GETTING AWAY!
POKEYMON ATTACK FORMATION-X!
KAMEDA POKEYMON --GO!!!
GEZODA POKEYMON --GO!!!
MECHADA POKEYMON --GO!!!
GOOD LORD! ;Choke!: THE HILLS ARE ALIVE WITH SUGAR-COATED CEREAL MASCOTS!
Gyyyrrf!
KAMEDA! KAMEDA! KAMEDA!
GEZODA! GEZODA! GEZODA!
MECHADA! MECHADA! MECHADA!
Rrrowrff!!
PUFF!
SMOOSH!
FWACK!
BWONK!
ATTA BOY! THAT'LL TEACH THOSE SACCHARINE-ENCRUSTED CREEPS TO PICK A FIGHT WITH US!
WE'RE TOO CLEVER! WE'RE STRATEGIC GENIUSES! WE'RE...
KA-SHOOOOM!!

...TRAPPED!
YgrF!
DON'T RUB IT IN, YOU LITTLE INGRATE! I CAN ALWAYS HAND YOU OVER TO THE BAD GUYS, Y'KNOW!
CHEE, LADY, WE AIN'T NO BAD GUYS--NOT WHEN LAST I CHECKED, ANYWAYS!
STOCKY'S RIGHT. IF YOU'D GIVEN US A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN, YOU'D KNOW WE'RE THE HEROES OF THIS STORY!
PUFF!
NOT MY FAULT. SAUCER-EYED TEENYBOPPERS MAKE ME ANXIOUS...!
OKAY, SO YOU'RE PURPORTEDLY THE GOOD GUYS, BUT I STILL DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE--!
I'M FLASH, THE SHY-BUT-GOOD-NATURED MALE LEAD!
I'M STOCKY, THE NONE-TOO-BRIGHT STRONG-MAN.
I'M HAZY..THE GIRL.
WHAT--THAT'S IT? JUST "THE GIRL"?! Tch! HONEY, YOU GOTS TO GET A BETTER GIG!
FINE. I'M THE CUTE-IN-A-NON-THREATENING-TO-THE-MALE-EGO-WAY GIRL! IS THAT BETTER?
THAN WHAT?
Ka-Choo!!
Oh--AND THAT'S KA'CHOO--OUR FAVORITE POKEYMON. SO WHO ARE YOU?
I'M ELVIRA—
THE STAR OF THIS FUNNYBOOK --AND HE'S BELA, MY BOSOM BUDDY, LIFE-LONG PAL, AND FAMILIAR.
LITTLE OL' ME?
SNIFF!
SNIFF!
I STRESS THAT'S FAMILIAR, NOT POKEYMON!

HE IS SO A POKEYMON --AND IF YOU DON'T COOPERATE WITH US, HE'LL WIND UP IN THE HANDS OF THE NEFARIOUS DAI GORDEMON!
TAKE IT EASY, HAZY-- MAYBE WE GOT OUR FACTS WRONG.
Huh! I'M PICKING UP A POWERFUL POKEY-FORM SIGNATURE--
--MOVING DUE NORTH...!
WHOA! INPUT OVERLOAD! BACK UP A STEP. "DAI GORDE"-- WHO??
DAI GORDEMON. Y'KNOW--THE VILLAIN OF THE PIECE!
Heh-heh. CAN'T HAVE A DRAMATIC CONFLICT WITHOUT AN ANTAGONIST!
SURE, SURE -- AND HE WOULD BE...?
A MEGALOMANIAC FROM THE OUTER DIMENSIONS! DAI GORDEMON COLLECTS POKEYMON, BUT NOT FOR FUN--FOR WAR!
HE'S AMASSING A POKEYMON ARMY TO CONQUER THE ENTIRE GALAXY! WE HAVE TO LOCATE THE POKEYMON IN THIS SECTOR, BEFORE HE ADDS HIM TO HIS COLLECTION!
THAT'S THE STOOPIDEST SCHEME I'VE EVER HEARD! HOW POWERFUL COULD AN ARMY OF THESE LITTLE GOOBERS BE?
FROM THE LEVEL READING I'M GETTING FROM ONE POKEYMON, I'D SAY VERY, VERY POWERFUL!
WINK!
HOW RIDICULOUS IS THIS? SIX PAGES IN, AND THIS STORY HASN'T GONE ANYWHERE --
--BUT DON'T WORRY, DARLINGS-- I SMELL A PLOT TWIST JUST AROUND THE BEND!

I CAN'T GET A STABLE SIGNAL ON THIS POKEYMON--HIS ENERGY LEVEL IS OFF THE CHARTS!
HOLY MOLEY! THAT'S NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE! HIS SUPER-POWERS MUST BE LIMIT-LESS... MAYBE EVEN COSMIC IN SCALE!
=Shudder!= Uh, G-G-GUYS= YOU'RE S-S-SCARING ME HERE! PERHAPS WE SHOULD CALL FOR --?!
THERE HE IS!
KAROAKIDA! KAROAKIDA!
WHAT?!? THAT...THAT FROG?!?! OH, PUH-LEEZE! HE'S A LITTLE WIMP! HE'S...
VOWWWMF!!
KRAKOOM!
GOINKS! THE FROG'S PACKIN' HEAT!! HE NEARLY CROAKED US!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU HE WAS POWERFUL= MAYBE WE SHOULD THINK UP A BETTER STRATEGY.
I'LL SECOND THAT-- BUT LET'S HAVE FLASH HANDLE THE BRAIN WORK.
FORGET THAT! NO WAY I'M LETTING A FROG MAKE A MONKEY OUT OF ME!
AFTER HIM!!

AND NOW, THE CRUEL AND SINISTER BAD GUYS...
:Sniff-sniff!: Ahhh! NOTHING SMELLS SO SWEET AS FRESHLY-PICKED POSIES ON A SUMMER'S DAY! IT REMINDS ME OF A HAIKU I WROTE...!!
KIDD, YOU DOO-DOO-HEAD! GET YER BUTT IN HERE! THE BOSS IS CALLIN'!
D-D-DID Y-Y-YOU SAY THE BOSS, BILLIE?
WHY DON'T YOU WASH ONCE IN A WHILE, YOU DUNCE? THE GREAT DAI GORDEMON HAS NO USE FOR HENCH-MEN WITH DIRTY EARS!
I'LL SEE TO IT HE CLEANS WITH LIME AND VARNISH REMOVER, SIR!
NEVER MIND THAT, NOW. --THERE'S MORE PRESSING MATTERS AT HAND, NAMELY THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE SUPER-POKEYMON KAROAKIDA.
HE'S APPROACHING YOUR SECTOR, AND I WANT HIM CAUGHT. DON'T BOTCH THIS UP!
MY TOE...!
YEEOWCH!!!
HAVE NO FEAR-- TEAM GORD SHALL NOT FAIL IN ITS PERILOUS TASK!
WE SHALL PURSUE OUR QUARRY WITH RELENTLESS VIGILANCE! WE SHALL STRIKE WITH THE DEADLY FINESSE AND GRACE OF TWIN RATTLESNAKES, FOR THE CONQUEST OF THE GALAXY DEPENDS ON--!!
GAK! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING, YOU... OOF!!!


KAROAKIDA! KAROAKIDA!
SAY, ISN'T THAT--?
DON'T JUST SIT THERE, BABOON-BOY --ATTACK FORMATION!
POKEY-CATCHER SPHERES --CHARGE AT FULL CAPACITY!
NEGA-POSITRON EMULATOR--REVERSE SETTING ON! LET'S ROCK'N'ROLL!
ATOMIC TRACTOR BEAM LOCKED ON! YATTA!! COME TO MAMA, LITTLE BUDDY!
KAROAKIDA...?
FAH-ZHOOOOM!!
GOTCHA! Hee hee! ONE POKEYMON CAUGHT, AND IN RECORD TIME!
THE BOSS WILL BE SO HAPPY WITH ME!
AWWW, IT AIN'T FAIR! YOU ALWAYS GET TO CATCH 'EM!

QUIT YER WHINING! DIDN'T I LET YOU CATCH THE COLD AND THE FLU?
WELL YEAH, I GUESS SO...BUT THOSE WEREN'T MUCH FUN!
Yowp! Yowp-yowp!
WHAT IS IT, POOPSIE? GOT A SCENT ON THAT NASTY LITTLE POKEYWHATSIS?
Yarf!
LOOK! IT'S THAT SNEAKY TEAM GORD --BILLIE AND KIDD!
GOSH! WHAT COULD THEY BE UP TO?
DUH! HELLO? THEY WORK FOR DAI GORDEMON, REMEMBER?
WHAT--YA MEAN THOSE GOOFBALLS SWIPED OUR FROG?!? LET'S MURDERIZE DA BUMS!!!
Hahmp-hahmp!
Ka-Choo!
PUFF!
CHEEZIT-- THE GOOD GUYS! THEY GOT US OUT-NUMBERED EIGHT TO FOUR!
IDIOT! WE'RE OUTNUMBERED SIX TO TWO --BUT NOT FOR LONG! EXECUTE FAIL-SAFE PLAN G-5!!
RELEASE ALL POKEYMON!
POKEYMON ARE GO!!!

SWEET JUMPIN' CATFISH!
A GRUESOME GAGGLE OF POKEY-WATCHAMACALLITS! WE'RE DOOMED! THE SACCHARINE LEVELS ALONE WILL KILL US FROM OUR TEETH ON DOWN!
NO PROBLEM, MON! I GOT THE SITUATION WELL IN HAND...!
KLONK!
FWEEP!
SAY...THAT'S ONE'A THEM THERE JAPANESE CARTOON CLICHES, ISN'T IT?
STRICTLY FOR ADULT AUDIENCES. Urgh...!
FWACK!
BWONK!
Oh, BROTHER! TALK ABOUT RUNNING A GAG INTO THE GROUND!
I MEAN, FUN'S FUN BUT THIS IS A REAL CRISIS --I'M NOT PREPARED TO GO MANO-A-MANO WITH AN ANGRY HORDE OF GUMBALL PRIZES!

Grawrrf!
WHAT'S THAT YA SAY, BOY--TIMMY'S DOWN THE WELL? LET'S KICK US SOME SERIOUS POKEY-ASS, THEN!!
PUFF!
Ka'Choo!
Snaaarl! Rawwwrf!
Ka'choo! Glorf! Gulp! Ahmf!
A'IEEE!!!
OUR POKEYMON! --HE ATE ALL OUR POKEYMON!!
¡Urp!¿
BAD KA'CHOO! WHAT HAVE I TOLD YOU ABOUT CANNIBALISM BEING WRONG?
OKAY, YA LITTLE GOOF--COUGH 'EM UP!
Ka'Choo!!
TWAK!
HERE--ALLOW ME, CHAMP!
THAT'S BETTER!

JUST LOOK AT THIS MESS! THE BOSS IS GONNA KILL US!
WHADDYA MEAN "US"? I CAN NAME THAT SCAPEGOAT IN THREE NOTES...!
SO CAN I, AND HER NAME IS E-L-V-I-R-A!
;Gasp!;
Oh, DUH! NOW I GET IT!--"DAI GORDEMON."
JINKIES! D-D-DAI GORDEMON!!
WHY DON'T'CHA USE YOUR REAL NAME:
SKELLOWEEN
THE PUMPKIN THAT WALKED LIKE A MAN!
COME NOW--WHERE'S THE PLOT TWIST IN THAT? YOUR FLAIR FOR THE DRAMATIC LEAVES MUCH TO BE DESIRED!
SERIOUSLY --WHAT'S THIS BUSINESS ABOUT USING CLOYINGLY CUTE KEWPIE-DOLLS TO CONQUER THE WORLD? AREN'T WE SLUMMING WITH THIS ONE?
I LIKE TO THINK OF IT AS AN UN-PREDICTABLE-YET-CLEVER MEANS TO AN END!
BESIDES, THERE'S NO FIERCER FIGHTING MACHINE THAN A HONKED-OFF POKEYMON--AS YOU SHALL SOON SEE: TAKE NO PRISONERS, BOYS!
YOIKS!!! WHAT A NIGHTMARE! THEY'RE BREEDING LIKE BUNNIES, AND I'M ALL OUT OF SUGAR-COATED ONE-LINERS!
KEEP YOUR SHIRT ON, TOOTS--WE'VE GOT THIS UNDER CONTROL!

GLURK-K-K!!
HELP!!! I CAN'T SWIM!!!
ALL RIGHT, ENOUGH'S ENOUGH! STAND BACK! WHILST I SAVE THE DAY WITH A LITTLE HOCUS-POCUS!
B-B-BUT THERE'S SO MANY OF 'EM!
STOCKY, OLD BEAN, HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF A SPELL OF CONTAIN-MENT? TO WIT!
"Hold thy horses and hold that ghost! Hold thy liquor at the Deon Martin Roast! Seal them off with a zip-lock bag! Enough already with this Pokeymon gag!"
SHWOOOSH!
ZZZ WHAZZAT ZZZ
WHOOPSIE! A DIMENSIONAL VORTEX!
NOT WHAT I WAS SHOOTING FOR, EXACTLY, BUT THAT RHYME SCHEME WASN'T WHAT I WAS SHOOTING FOR, EITHER.
PUFF!
MY ARMY.. MY UNSTOPPABLE TASK FORCE -- FLUSHED DOWN THE DIMENSIONAL DRAIN!!
ACTUALLY, I BELIEVE "DOWN THE TOILET" IS THE MORE APROPOS TURN OF PHRASE, WOULDN'T YOU SAY?
INDEED. I'LL SEE TO IT YOUR CAREER SOON JOINS THEM!! UNTIL THAT HAPPY DAY, I BID YOU A FOND SARABA!
THAT MEANS HE'LL BE BACK!
A POX ON WHOEVER CAME UP WITH RECURRING VILLAINS, ANYWAY!!
HOLY HOODWINK, ELVIRA! BILLIE AND KIDD HAVE ESCAPED..
PUFF!

"... AND THEY'VE STOLEN KARRAKIDA!"
¡Huff-puff!: WE'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS, BILLIE!
WILL TOO! WHO NEEDS THE BOSS? WITH THE MOST POWERFUL OF ALL POKEYMON IN OUR HOT LITTLE HANDS, WE CAN BUILD OUR OWN ARMY, AND--!
AND FAIL MISERABLY! IN ALL THE HUBBUB, YOU GOONS OVERLOOKED THE OBVIOUS!
Uh, WE DID?
YEAH, RIGHT-- AND WHAT WOULD THAT BE?
AMEEEE!!!
BLAFFT!
"OL' RELIABLE" GEYSER
Ka'Choooo!
JUST A NATIONAL LANDMARK: OL' RELIABLE!
NICE WORK, ELVIRA. THE CRISIS HAS BEEN DIVERTED AND EVERYTHING'S WRAPPED UP QUITE NICELY THANKS TO YOUR HELP!
ARE YOU CERTAIN?
WHAT ABOUT LITTLE FROG LEGS HERE?
HE'S TOO MUCH OF A POWERHOUSE TO BE SET LOOSE UNCHECKED!
WE'LL SEE THAT HE'S PROPERLY CONTAINED!
HEY, MISSION ACCOMPLISHED, CHAMP!
¡Urrrrp.!:
Oh, NOOOO!
NOT TO WORRY--I'VE GOT A BOTTLE OF THE PINK STUFF BACK AT CAMP
THE END